

The Jesus Perspective • Philippians 2:5-11

It's clear that this section has a different style than the rest of the letter, in fact, many scholars believe that Paul was quoting a common Christian hymn of the time. If that's true, the concepts of this poem existed before Paul and independently of Paul. **What do you think about that?**

The reason Paul uses this poem is to emphasize the character and mindset of Christ, and like any poem, this poem has individual words that carry deep meaning. Let's consider the implications of a few of them.

Verse 6

Jesus is in the μορφή of God, but doesn't consider it ἀρπογμός. μορφή (morphe) means nature or essence, more than "form." ἁρπογμός (harpogmos) is something to grab or hold by force.

What do you learn about Jesus through this verse?

Verse 7

Jesus **κενόω** himself, takes on the **μορφή** of a servant and the **σχῆμα** of a man. **κενόω** (*keno-o*) means to empty something of power, position or influence

σχῆμα (schema) means the same as **μορφή**, emphasizing appearance.

What do you learn about Jesus from this verse?

Verse 8 What do you learn about Jesus from this verse?

Verses 9-11 What do you learn about Jesus from the way the poem ends?

Take it Home

On Sunday, we were given this final summary of the "Jesus Perspective" what do you think about it's implications for the Christian life?

If I lose myself in submission to the Father, I am given the life I'm meant to have for His Glory.

Should a Christian ever be concerned with "risking too much" or "losing too much"? Are there pragmatic limits to "losing yourself"? What do you think?



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